NEWSMAKERS

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James Earl Ray book is focus of divorce fight

USA TODAY

RAY: She no longer believes that her husband is innocent.

By Paul Hoversten
USA TODAY

The James Earl Ray divorce case has turned into a battle over his only asset — anticipated profits from his book, *Who Killed Martin Luther King?*

Ray filed for divorce from his wife, Anna Sandhu Ray, in 1990, citing irreconcilable differences. Friday in Nashville, she filed a divorce petition, citing improper marital conduct.

"It's the way he's treated her," says her lawyer, F. Dulin Kelly. "He's told her not to visit him, and she feels like he's threatened her."

Anna Ray wants to bar her husband and his publisher, National Press, from dividing any of the book's profits until her share can be determined.

His proceeds are supposed to go to the James Earl Ray Legal Defense Fund.

The Rays married in 1978 after meeting in court. Anna Ray, now 45, was a courtroom sketch artist for a Knoxville TV station. Ray, 63 — serving a 99-year term for the 1968 slaying of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. — was on trial for escape. They've never been alone together.

They legally separated in 1987. Ray, now in prison in Nashville, says in his book — due out Nov. 25 — he was a scapegoat in the assassination.

Jesse Jackson, — with King in Memphis when he was shot — wrote the foreword. He has said he doesn't believe Ray acted alone.

Kelly describes Anna as a "struggling free-lance artist" who lives quietly in White House, Tenn.

She recently has said she no longer believes her husband is innocent. As a result, her life has become "sort of a nightmare," she told *The* (Nashville) *Tennessean*. She says she's been harassed by Ray's supporters; vandals smashed the windows of her car.

Trial for Palestinian unlikely

By Kimberly Hayes Taylor
USA TODAY

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